



Branching Out

January 8, 2010—Happy New Year!

The mission of Three Rivers Environmental Educators is to promote collaboration of resources and provide networking opportunities for environmental educators in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula areas of Virginia.

TREE meetings:

Tuesday, January 12, at Friends of the Rappahannock in Fredricksburg at 11 am. John Tippet, executive director, will show a PowerPoint presentation and there will be a tour of the facilities. Maureen Hamm will make soup to accompany your lunch. As always, pot luck encouraged. Contact Maureen at education@riverfriends.org to RSVP so that she will have a head count.

We will vote in new officers:

Faye Andrashko, president

Wendy Mataya, vice-president

Laura Lawfer, secretary

Thank you to our nominees for offering to serve!

Spring meeting: Deltaville Fisherman's Museum and Holly Point Park April 13.
Details coming soon!

Local Events:

Nature Photography at Belle Isle State Park

Saturday, January 30 with Matthew Asai 1-3 pm

Learn how to use that new digital camera during this free hands-on class emphasizing photograph composure and artistry, how to use settings on the camera, and incorporating tools for beautiful nature photography. A portion of the class will be conducted outside, so please dress for the weather. Class space is limited and reservations are recommended by calling (804) 462-5030.

Matthew Asai has been an avid photographer for over 35 years. As a volunteer state park photographer, he has photographed events and facilities at seven state parks in the northern half of Virginia. His work has been published in Virginia Wildlife, The Bay Journal, Free Lance Star and the Virginia State Park E-news. His photographs can be viewed at www.mattasai.com

Other Events:

Choose Clean Water Conference

January 10th-12th, Washington, DC

Join several hundred key leaders of non-governmental organizations, the philanthropic community, elected officials, federal and state partners and green industry in three days of discussion about policy strategies to restore the hundreds of streams and rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. 2010 will be a critical year for Bay restoration. The conference will reflect upon President Obama's

historic Executive Order on Chesapeake Bay restoration, the approaching deadline for federal Bay clean-up and the pending re-authorization of the Chesapeake Bay Program in Congress.
<http://www.choosecleanwater.org/cms/conference>

Conservation Lobby Day

January 18th Richmond

MLK Day is your day to tell legislators what you expect from them this General Assembly session. Join Virginia Conservation Network, the Garden Club of Virginia, and countless volunteers as we take our conservation priorities to the Capitol on January 18, 2010. <http://www.citizen-networks.org/site/Calendar/38868409?view=Detail&id=100082>

2010 Mid-Atlantic Short Course

January 24th-29th, Founders Inn, Virginia Beach

The program and registration for the 2010 Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course are now available online. Due to printing delays, the program booklet should be mailed the week of December 21. We apologize for the inconvenience and have updated the website for your immediate use. Visit [mahsc.org](http://www.mahsc.org) to download a list of classes and a registration form, or view the program and register directly online. Go to list of classes - <http://www.mahsc.org/program.php>

Online registration and payment is available or download and print the registration form for return by mail. Purchase Order and credit card registrations can be faxed.

Register Now! - <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=790202>

You and your staff can earn all your CEUs at the Short Course! Take advantage of the early bird savings (an \$80 value) by registering before January 10.

2010 NAAEE Conference Call for Presenters - Submission deadline February 1

The North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) 39th Annual Conference will be held September 29 - October 2, 2010 at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center in Buffalo-Niagara, New York. NAAEE welcomes presentation proposals linked to the 2010 conference strands and threads related to the overall theme -- Environmental Education: Building Connections - Bridging Gaps. [Learn more](#)

WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands!

February 3rd, 9am-4pm, Ernie Morgan Center, Norfolk

Join us for this day-long workshop that introduces you to basic wetland ecology, including soil, water & plants, as well as wetland functions & values through fun and interactive activities in lesson plan format.

Why Choose WOW!?

- Bring wetlands alive and into the classroom!

WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands curriculum guide is packed full of wetlands information, ideas, and over 50 hands-on multidisciplinary activities, correlated to National Science Education Standards, all in lesson plan format.

- WOW! has been called, "the most comprehensive introduction to wetland issues and definitions" by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE).

- WOW! is a recommended resource by the National Science Teacher's Association (NSTA)
- Make connections with a network of wetland educators.
- And so much more!

\$45 per participant, includes curriculum guide

For more information or to register:

Visit www.wetland.org or call 410-745-9620

Watermen's Museum Educational Facilitator Training

No Child Left On the Shore

Eco-Heritage Environmental Science Project

March 13th-14th, April 3rd-4th, May 8th-9th, Watermen's Museum

Virginia Maritime Heritage

Eco-Heritage Cultural Studies Project

June 26th-27th, August 7th-8th, Watermen's Museum

Free, 14 hrs Recertification Credit

For More Information Contact: Michael Steen Msteen1781@cox.net, 757-564-6421

Free Tools and other Cool Stuff

Sailing Expeditions for Students Spring or Fall 2010

Students (grades 5-12) along with their adult chaperones will experience marine science and sailing on the waters of Puget Sound aboard the 61' Carlyn. Students will take the helm from the minute they step on board, conducting original marine science research and learning to operate the vessel under the careful guidance of the Salish crew. Scholarship money is available for qualifying schools and students! Contact Education Director, Nikken Palesch, at nikken@salish.org or (206) 780-7848 (Salish office) with questions. <http://www.salish.org>

Debate Over Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Corn Ethanol

The Yale University peer-reviewed bimonthly *Journal of Industrial Ecology*, is making available a series of free, downloadable articles on the greenhouse gas emissions from corn ethanol.

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/aboutus/topics/...>

Production Company Seeks Exceptional Children for New Game Show

Educators are invited to nominate (with parental permission) students who are extremely bright in many subjects (such as energy, botany, sustainability, rainforests, meteorology, geology) – who know, for example, how the environment is woven into subjects from language to math, from history to science -- for a game show to air in 2010. Mark Burnett Productions of *Are You Smarter Than a Fifth Grader?* fame is now casting children (ages 6-12) who are exceptionally advanced for their age in one or more subjects. Please email kidgeniuscasting@gmail.com, or call (310) 903-

5573 for more information. Learn more about Mark Burnett Productions:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Burnett

Freebies for Science Teachers

This NSTA site provides free resources for science teachers to use in their classroom. The search tool allows teachers to search by keyword for the resource types (CDs, Kits, Videos) they are seeking.

<http://www.nsta.org/publications/freebies.aspx?lid...>

Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide

The purpose of this guide is to provide the basic steps needed to restore or create wildlife habitat. It is designed so that students complete several tasks that will lead to establishing a forest, meadow, or wetland on school grounds. The projects can range in size from a small 20' by 20' area to an acre or more. These steps were developed from the experiences of several schools that have completed similar projects. The process incorporates critical thinking and decision-making skills while challenging students in reading, writing, science, mathematics, and language arts.

<http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/schoolyd.html>

Integrated Wetland Assessment Toolkit

The IUCN has published An Integrated Wetland Assessment Toolkit: A guide to good practice. With this new set of tools, it should be possible to measure the economic value of a wetland, assessing the species that live there and the importance of a wetland for people's livelihood. The three main sections cover the integrated assessment process, the tools themselves, and illustrated examples of the application of the tools through detailed case studies.

http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/iwa_toolkit_lowres.pdf

The MINTS Book is now on-line! <http://www.outreach.geos.vt.edu/programs/programs.html>

This is an "Inquiry Field Guide to the Natural History of Schoolyards, Backyards, and Parks" produced by the Virginia Tech Science Outreach Program.

The USDA Forest Service has a new **Conservation Education** website:

<http://fs.usda.gov/conservationeducation>.

The US Energy Information Administration has launched **Energy Explained** at

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/energyexplained/index.cfm>. Energy Kids is still available at

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/kids>.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's **"SOILS - Tools for Educators"** page is at

http://soils.usda.gov/education/resources/k_12/tools.html.

Grants, Volunteers, and Funding:

Toyota TAPESTRY Grants - Application deadline January 18

The Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Science Teachers program offers grants to K-12 science teachers for innovative projects that enhance science education in the school and/or school district. Fifty large grants and a minimum of 20 mini-grants, totaling \$550,000 in all, will be awarded this year. [Learn more](#)

Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge - Entry deadline varies by grade level

The Siemens "We Can Change the World" challenge offers students the opportunity to make a sustainable change matched to science, math and reading/language arts concepts and skills. Teams of students find an adult mentor who will play an active role in guiding student development of the project and submission of materials. The entry period for submissions has already begun and ends January 31 for elementary school groups and March 15 for middle school groups. [Learn more](#)

Jobs

Note: I receive more job postings than are listed here. Sometimes the deadline for application is before the next issue is on the web. Some of the jobs are out of the area and part-time—I don't usually include those. Full time EE jobs across the state and part-time jobs in the area are usually included. If you or someone you know is looking for employment let me know and I'll forward jobs I hear about. I even get EE job listings across the country.

If your organization is hiring let me know and I'll include the postings here. Because we are bi-weekly, the earlier you can get those in the better.

Assistant Director, Conservation Education

U. S. Forest Service, Conservation Education Washington DC

Introduction: The Conservation Education staff will soon advertise for the Assistant Director for Conservation Education, a GS 301-14 position, located in the Forest Service National Headquarters in Washington DC. This position will be advertised both internally (current federal government employees) and externally (open to the public). The Assistant Director reports directly to the Director of Conservation Education and provides national leadership for the conservation education program and is dedicated to the land by providing the necessary tools needed to take informed actions for sustaining natural and cultural resources. The conservation education staff is located under the State and Private Deputy area. The Assistant Director (AD) assists the Director of Conservation Education in leading the Forest Service Conservation Education Program including significant managerial and supervisory responsibilities for the national staff.

Major Duties:

The major duties for this position include, but are not limited to: assesses program effectiveness, determines the need for written policies and procedures, directs the capture, reporting and analysis of statistical data, integrates results of various studies and analyses into comprehensive findings, reports and technical papers, serves as a national authority on

educational program/project planning, provides expert advice and guidance on broad projects and programs which have national interest.

Knowledge Required of the Position:

Mastery of Methods of Science, Social studies, and Environmental Education (EE). Mastery of a wide range of methods for the assessment, evaluation and improvement of complex programs, including EE for Early Childhood and Elementary Education. Skills to oversee, plan, organize and implement programs including EE curriculum development, process and development of lesson plans, teaching strategies and assessments and evaluation of new programs.

Location: Washington D.C, capital of the United States, is the center of a metropolitan area (population 5.1 million) extending into Maryland and Virginia. The DC Metro Area is an exciting place to live and work and is a cultural as well as governmental center. Some of the best schools and medical services in the Nation are found in the area. The city is a major tourist attraction as well as a cultural center. The DC area is an exciting place to work and live.

For more information contact: Safiya Samman, Director, Conservation Education at (202) 205-1241 or email at ssamman@fs.fed.us.

If interested in the position, please email the attached form to: rmonroe@fs.fed.us

Educational Events Coordinator—Stratford Hall

Job Description: - The person in this position will take the lead to plan and execute all educational special events at Stratford Hall, including the Robert E. Lee Symposium on Civil War History; The Lees and Independence; Food and Harvest Festival; Historical Haunts; Christmas at Stratford Hall; Cultural Landscape Symposium; and all other educational symposia and events planned, with the exception of the summer camps. - This staff member will also plan Stratford Hall's yearly calendar of events and event budgets. - Coordinate with volunteers, interpretive staff, and other members of the Stratford Hall team to make sure events run smoothly, including staffing, set-up, and catering. - Liaison with media and public relations department to publicize events. - Help coordinate group events. - This is a full-time position with benefits. Qualifications: College degree mandatory, B.A./B.S. in history or other related subject is preferred. M.A. in history, public history, or other related field is a plus. Event planning experience is preferred. Applicant must be organized, able to write coherently and comprehensively, and must be a good communicator with varied audiences. Must be willing to work basic minimum 40-hour weeks and, when necessary, weekends, evenings, and special events. Applicant must have excellent computer skills. Must be competent in Microsoft Word and Excel at minimum. Must be able to use competently various internet applications and e-communication tools in promoting events and communicating with program participants.

How to Apply: Please send a cover letter, resume, and list of three references by 5pm on Friday, January 15, 2010. Interviews will be held in late January or early February, with a projected start date of mid-March 2010. Application materials can be sent via e-mail to llawfer@stratfordhall.org; faxed to (804) 493-0333; or mailed to: Laura Lawfer, Director of Interpretation and Programs Stratford Hall 483 Great House R

Contact:

Laura Lawfer, 804-493-8038, x1920

llawfer@stratfordhall.org

www.stratfordhall.org

Communications Manager

Overview: The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) is seeking a communications manager to supervise a new branding initiative for the organization and to oversee all communications for the VCCA. The qualified individual will work with all divisions in establishing and meeting goals and timetables, will provide editorial assistance, and actively promote the VCCA to donors, prospective donors, Fellows and the general public. Skills sought include an understanding of nonprofit arts management, writing and editorial prowess, time management, budgeting, the ability to work both collaboratively and singly with a small staff of highly qualified individuals. This person is self-motivated, goal oriented, has sound computer skills and a willingness to participate in all aspects of the organization, given the versatility required of a small staff with. A sense of humor is appreciated. Essential Duties: Supervise and monitor a new branding program in accordance with the outline prescribed by the contracted firm ToMarket, insuring fluid integration into all divisions of the VCCA, most notably development & cultivation and programs & admissions. Assume primary responsibility for the production, conception, design and printing of all publications. Update VCCA webpage, blog and social networking sites with new content at least weekly, but on a schedule that fits the medium. Facilitate special VCCA initiatives and projects with design and editorial services. Assist in the establishment of a timetable for planned development and visibility correspondence and monitor the progress of same. Support efforts of development staff by creating cultivation/stewardship communications models and facilitating the use of those models. Support grant writing efforts by assisting in background research and inquiry and by working with program director to market and implement funded projects. Assist the executive director in cultivation and major gifts efforts.

Contact: Michael Dowell

mdowell@vcca.com

www.vcca.com

Associate - Southern Forests for the Future

The World Resources Institute (WRI) seeks a results-oriented, self-motivated individual with excellent analytical, writing, communication, and people-engagement skills for a full-time position to help implement "Southern Forests for the Future." This project seeks to:

- Increase public awareness about the threats facing southern U.S. forests and the ecosystem services these forests provide;
 - Identify and develop economic incentive programs to promote stewardship of southern forests and analyze their economic and environmental benefits;
 - Work with public agencies, land trust organizations, private landowners, and other entities to adopt and adequately finance these programs and;
 - Help public and private entities pilot test these programs and research ways to maximize the uptake of the most promising ones by industrial and non-industrial forestland owners.
- Our short term goal is to secure protection of over 4 million acres of private forestland otherwise jeopardized by land use conversion or unsustainable forest management.

Job Type: Professional

Salary Detail: Salary Commensurate with Experience

Deadline: 1-15-2010

Organization: World Resources Institute

Location: Washington DC

Contact Person: Logan Yonavjak

Phone: 1 (202) 729-7795

E-Mail: lyonavjak@wri.org

Mailing Address: 10 G St. NE, Suite 800, Washington DC 20002

Title: Assistant Program Director – Chesapeake Programs

Summary: Working out of Washington, D.C., the Assistant Program Director will have programmatic, communications, and administrative responsibilities for the Foundation's grant making programs focused in the Chesapeake Bay watershed (including but not limited to the Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants and Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants). Specifically, the Assistant Program Director will assist the Program Director – Chesapeake Programs (Director) in the management of these grants programs, support existing federal, corporate and foundation partnerships and the development of new partnerships for the Chesapeake Bay and other estuarine initiatives. The Assistant Program Director will help coordinate the day-to-day management of the Foundation's grant-making programs and partnerships as determined by the Director.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Manage all aspects of the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund monitoring and assessment program, including but not limited to:
 - o Working directly with contractors to develop standardized protocols for pre- and post-project monitoring;
 - o Developing and managing a model program for conducting pre- and post-project monitoring for grant-funded work in the Chesapeake;
 - o Analyzing grantee programmatic reports to inventory outcomes and develop relevant collections of case studies;
 - o Developing consistent tracking systems for managing grantee performance metrics;
 - o Developing reports that synthesize reporting information collected from grantees and document program impact;
 - o Organizing site visits with grantees and program partners;
 - o Working with NFWF's web master to advance project mapping on the web through partnerships, including with the Conservation Registry;
 - o Managing NFWF's Quality Management system for the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund.
- Assist in the day-to-day management of the Foundation's grant programs in the Chesapeake watershed, including:
 - o program development, planning and evaluation;
 - o project identification and development;
 - o development of grant solicitation materials;
 - o coordination of grant review and award processes, including coordinating grant review committees; and,
 - o monitor active grants/contracts in coordination with the project administration team.
- Prepare briefing materials and recommendations to support decision making by the Foundation's staff and Board;
- Conduct communications and outreach activities, including developing fact sheets, presentation materials, and information for the Foundation's web site.
- Assist in planning and coordinating information sharing events (e.g., workshops, roundtables, conference calls) for grantees and program partners;
- Serve as a Foundation representative on occasion for various constituencies including site-visits, partner briefings and meetings as requested by the Director;

Secondary Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist the Director in preparing federal grant applications and fulfilling reporting requirements associated with federal funding agreements;
- Assist the Director in developing and maintaining relationships with corporate partners, working closely with NFWF's development staff; and,
- Monitor scientific literature and Federal and state policy activities for new developments in estuarine issues that could impact the Foundation's conservation strategies for the Chesapeake Bay.

Qualifications

- Minimum bachelor's degree, master's or equivalent experience preferred, in biology, ecology, environmental science, public policy or related field.
- Minimum two years experience working with government agencies and/or nongovernmental organizations on issues related to conservation and natural resource management.
- Knowledge of watershed and estuarine management issues.
- Knowledge of environmental and policy challenges facing the Chesapeake Bay.
- Experience working with environmental indicators and performance metrics.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Experience building consensus and managing conflict among diverse partners.
- Ability to work independently in a rapidly changing environment.
- Ability to work successfully in a team environment.
- Computer proficiency, including databases, spreadsheets, word processing, and graphics. Experience with web content management and Geographic Information Systems is preferred.

Compensation: Commensurate with experience.

Location: Washington, DC

To apply, please send an e-mail, with attachments in Word format, containing your cover letter describing your interest and qualifications, resume, one to two page writing samples, three professional references and your salary requirements to Marla Oliver, Human Resources Coordinator, at HR2@nfwf.org. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is an equal opportunity employer.

Education Outreach Associate

Earth Day Network is offering an entry-level opportunity handling a range of organizational duties that advance the mission of Earth Day Network's Education Department, with particular emphasis on research and administrative support for supporting initiatives and programs related to Earth Day 2010. Specifically, we seek to distribute a K-12 Earth Day curriculum unit to schools nationwide. This activity will also include the required follow-up, volunteer coordination, and support of related Earth Day activities at participating schools nationwide. The Education Outreach Associate liaises with the Director of Education, the Education Coordinator, and the International Outreach Coordinator at EDN to support members of EDN's Educators' Network and EDN's 40th Anniversary initiatives planned for April 2010. The goal is to build widespread environmental education resources and increase participation and action related to Earth Day within K-12 schools across the U.S.

Job Type: Full Time temporary

Salary Detail: Commensurate with experience

Deadline: 1-11-2010

Organization: Earth Day Network

Location: Washington, DC

Contact Person: Sean Miller
Phone: 202.518.0044 x 31
E-Mail: miller@earthday.net

Mailing Address: Earth Day Network
Attn: Director of Education
1616 P Street, NW, Suite 340
Washington, DC 20036

Curricula Writer

Earth Day Network seeks a dynamic and energetic individual to handle a range of environmental education activities that advance the mission of Earth Day Network's Education Department, with particular emphasis on the development of environmental education curricula related to Earth Day 2010. The Curricula Writer liaises with the Director of Education, the Education Coordinator, and other staff to support members of EDN's Educators' Network and EDN's school-based greening activities. The goal is to build widespread environmental and school greening education resources within K-12 schools across the U.S. and abroad in conjunction with our 40th Anniversary in April. Currently, the focus is on creating educational materials and lessons for Earth Day 2010, implementing school greening projects at K-12 schools across the U.S., outreaching to establish and maintain relationships with individuals and organizations around the world, and supporting educators and youth at selected schools worldwide that have interest in environmental education.

Job Type: Full Time temporary
Salary Detail: Commensurate with experience
Deadline: 1-11-2010
Organization: Earth Day Network
Location: Washington, DC
Contact Person: Sean Miller
Phone: 202.518.0044 x 31
E-Mail: miller@earthday.net

Mailing Address: Earth Day Network
Attn: Director of Education
1616 P Street, NW, Suite 340
Washington, DC 20036

Got news, job postings, events, or other information to share? Want to brag about awards? Hear about something that would be of interest to members? Send them to charlene.talcott@dcr.virginia.gov

Please forward this to anyone that might be interested. Want to be included on the TREE mailings? Contact faye.andrashko@va.nacdn.net